

Remarks

The Office action of October 2, 2003 contains a Restriction/Election Requirement that states that there are fourteen distinct "species" of the claimed invention. The Office action apparently contends that each figure in the application corresponds to a distinct "species," with the exception the "species" corresponding to two figures (Species 9 - Figs. 10A-10B and Species 14 - Figs. 15-16). Applicants note that the pending claims are directed to optical transceivers (claims 1-9, 19-22), methods of transceiving optical signals (claims 25-33), optical supports (claims 10-21), and optical mounts (claims 23-24). The figures of the subject application depict representative embodiments of optical communication systems (Fig. 1), optical transceivers (Figs. 2-7, 12-16), optical mounts (Figs. 10A-10B), optical transceivers retained by optical mounts (Figs. 9, 11, 15-16), and hologram recording arrangement (Fig. 8). As such, these figures and claims do not appear to solely depict or pertain to "species" and Applicants request clarification.

In reply to this Restriction/Election Requirement, Applicants are required to identify a species consonant with the Requirement even though, as best understood, the figures do not depict "species" as stated by the Office action. According, Applicants traverse this Requirement and provisionally elect claims directed to optical transceivers and methods of transceiving optical signals (claims 1-9, 19-22, and 25-33) for prosecution. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the non-elected claim in corresponding divisional applications.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would be helpful, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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